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SKILL IS EDUCATION.

Know How to Do Things Well is the Only True Learning.

(Communicated.)

This article is designed for a piece on education; not a piece, however, of fashionable orthodoxy, but simply a glance at the subject from merely a layman's point of view.

Between God, Nature, and the man there is always absolute harmony; they invariably witness one another. Nature, speaking through the moral sense, tells every man that it is his duty to make a living for himself, not by any speculation but by honest work. And God, in pronouncing sentence upon the disobedient man, corroborates this precept of nature in language exceedingly graphic and forceful. The man is not only to work for his bread, but he is to bend to the task until the sweat upon his face shall testify to the tension of his muscles. The words of the gospel, too, are to the same effect. The man who is able to work out a support for his own household, including himself, and who is not indolent to do so, is said to be a denier of the Christian faith and is even worse than an infidel.

It is obvious, therefore, that God has no use for a lazy man. He may be ever so fine a fellow in society—he may even profess spiritual conversion, and belong to the church, and even be generous in support of the holy gospel—yet if he is too lazy to roll up his sleeves and by energetic action provide food, clothing and shelter for himself and those rightfully dependent upon him he is, in the estimation of the divine mind, no better than an infidel, and, in the end, he shares the fate of the reprobate; that is to say, die and go to hell.

We have said so much to bring the view as prominently as possible the curious fact that God, and the Bible unite in the opinion of a much greater confidence for the well-being of the body than for the culture and development of the human intellect.

This is all in exact accord with the divine plan of creation. In working the complete man into existence made first his body. It was not until after this body had been perfectly fitted up and equipped that it was made the home of a living soul, and dedicated to the service of the intellectual faculty.

Here, then, we catch the fundamental idea of human education: the physical first and the mental second in the order of development. The school, or more particularly the teacher, presumes to take up and carry out the work of civilization just where the divine hand laid it down. In making mental culture the sole object of attention he thereby proceeds in accord with the inspired word, in violation of the laws of human nature and in disregard of common experience. If the body, as we have seen, requires first attention in the economy of this life should also be the first object of cultural treatment in the school; that is, the conservation and development of the pupil's physical powers while at school, together with such theoretical instruction will qualify him for taking care of his own body after he leaves school, should constitute the object of scholastic care. In short, every pupil should be required to receive instruction in order to master the art of honorable self-support.

In order to realize how far our schools of liberal learning are coming short of this most desirable end it is only necessary to glance at a moment at the course of study which their efficiency is gener-

ally engrossed. Among the great number of branches taught there is scarcely one that has any tendency whatever to qualify the student to produce a loaf of bread, to shape a shingle or make a jacket.

Outside of reading, writing, and the four fundamental rules in mathematics, there is but little in the entire scope of scholastic training that has any practical bearing upon the concerns of this mortal life. The result is obvious. The tramp who called at your kitchen door and importuned for a piece of bread may have been by no means an ignoramus; perhaps was a scholar, having been trained in childhood and youth under the auspices of the public school. Why, then, was he begging for bread? It was not because he was too lazy to do better; he was willing to work for you. It was simply because he did not know how to produce for himself the desired article of food, and the schools had never taught him how to do it. Hence, he was a tramp, begging bread.

These propositions will, of course, be stoutly controverted by the optimistic school-man. He will tell you that the mind of the student will be strengthened by the study of these irrelevant abstractions, and the stronger the mind the easier and more certain the success in making a living.

This, however, is but the familiar old fallacy that has been deluding the educational world from time immemorial. Its popularity as an argument well illustrates the success that error may sometimes make in usurping the throne of truth.

The fact is, mental strength is not what a man most needs in order to qualify him to provide for his physical wants, but skill—it is skill that accomplishes all human purposes, skill that constitutes the grand desideratum among mortals. One may know very well how music is produced on the piano, yet when he puts his fingers to the keys and attempts the feat he may possibly prove an utter failure as a musician. It is not the strongest horse that does the most effective pulling, but the little fellow that understands best how to handle himself in the harness.

Skill, we repeat, is what we most need; it is what the world needs. It is the common dearth of this generic qualification that fosters, more than anything else, physical want and consequent crime and misery among mankind, and yet our schools, the sole expedient to which we look for the betterment of human conditions, are neither competent nor disposed to teach it.

Let us hear, then, the conclusion of the whole matter: Our notions of education should be reformed as to substitute skill for knowledge as an end to be attained. Our schools should be so remodeled as to qualify them for the ready impartation of skill instead of knowledge, and no student should be deemed entitled to the credit of a completed education until he has convinced his faculty that he has possessed himself of sufficient skill in some honorable calling or profession to enable him, if need be, to go to work at it and work out for himself and those who are dependent upon him a comfortable living.

Too-qua-see

Saved At Grave's Brink.
"I know I would long ago have been in my grave," writes Mrs. S. H. Newman, of Decatur, Ala., "if it had not been for Electric Bitters. For three years I suffered untold agony from the worst forms of indigestion, water-brash, stomach and bowel dyspepsia. But this excellent medicine did me a world of good. Since using it I can eat heartily and have gained 35 pounds." For indigestion, loss of appetite, stomach, liver and kidney troubles Electric Bitters are a positive guaranteed cure. Only 50c at People's and A. W. Foreman's drug stores. dw

LAND NUMBERS.

United States Survey of Indian Territory Explained.

Every Cherokee citizen should know how to find the proper numbers of his land, in order that no mistake be made in filing. The following explanation will be found of interest and should be cut out and filed away for reference:

Beginning on a hill near Fort Arbuckle, Indian Meridian, was run north and south a line across the territory. Beginning at the same point a base line was run east and west across the territory. Each twenty-four miles east and west of the Indian Meridian guide meridians were run. Each twenty-four miles north and south of the base line standard parallels were run.

Then beginning at the southeast corner of each of these twenty-four mile square townships were surveyed. The townships are six miles square.

At the corner of each township an iron post—sometimes round and sometimes square—is set. This post is about three feet high and is set in the ground three feet. On its top is a bronze plate showing the altitude above sea level. On each side of this post is marked the numbers of the townships and ranges which corner there. The townships are numbered north and south from the base line. The ranges are numbered east and west from Indian Meridian.

Then beginning at the southeast corner of each township it was surveyed into sections, each one mile square. Then the sections were numbered, beginning at the northeast corner of the township with No. 1 and going west to No. 6, and then taking the next tier and going east to No. 12, and back and forth to section No. 36, at the southeast corner of the township.

Section corners are marked by a stone. This stone is fully described by the surveyors' notes. It is usually six inches high, and is marked on the south side with tally marks to show how far north it is from the south line of the township, and on the east side to show how far it is from the east side of the township.

Quarter section lines are marked at their corners by stones marked 14 on west side going north, and on north side going west.

Witness marks: If in the timber, bearing trees, marked "B. T.," are found near a section corner—one in each section cornering there—each tree being branded with the number of the section in which it stands; the number is on the side toward the stone.

Quarter section corners have two bearing trees, one in each section, marked with the number of the section in which it stands.

Where no trees are near, "witness holes" are dug. At the section corners there are four—one in each section. They are four feet from the stone and are eighteen inches square and twelve inches deep.

At the half section corners two holes are dug, each on the section line and four feet from the stone.

If a corner is in a river, or other inaccessible point, witness trees or stones as near by as possible are marked "W. C.," and in the surveyors' notes are recorded the distance and directions to the corner.

The surveyors' notes are forever kept in the land office at Washington, and copies are kept at the capital of each nation, and at the county seat of each county, for the lands in that nation and county.

Allotments Wanted.

Any one having a few good allotments within a radius of fifteen or twenty miles of Vinita can find a purchaser by applying at this office. Grass land preferred, but would buy improved land.

LAND OFFICE

Was Opened On Schedule
Time January First
1903.

TICKETS AT 8:30.

Filing Will Begin Monday January Fifth. Important To Have Land Numbers Ready. Fullbloods Will Take Time.

The long-looked-for Cherokee land office began business in Vinita Thursday morning at eight thirty o'clock. Everything is ready for the work that is to continue until every Cherokee citizen has been located on a homestead. The filing will not begin until next Monday January 5th. The gentlemen in charge of the work here say that it is impossible to state even approximately the number of filings that can be reached in a day.

The work can be expedited by every one who applies being equipped with the exact description of the land they wish to file upon. It is expected much time will be consumed in locating the fullbloods, many of them not knowing just where their allotments lie with reference to the government survey.

There is really no occasion for crowding in as all will have a chance to file and no one can file upon another's land with any possible show of obtaining same and such attempts will only cause delay in getting title.

There'll Be Trouble.

One more incident in Wagoner like the Stigers murder and there will be a race war that will wipe out the negro population of that place in a few hours, and the town will be rid of an element of lawlessness and crime that it has seemed impossible to correct for years. Such was the sentiment of a citizen of Wagoner expressed a few days ago. Stigers was a well respected white man and was murdered in cold blood by a negro. He lived long enough to tell that it was a negro, but was unable to identify him. Last spring a white man was murdered at Wagoner and a dozen negroes were arrested for the crime. There is strong evidence that they are guilty of this murder, and there is a deep feeling over the conditions existing in the town. It is believed that if there is another crime committed soon there will be a crisis, and much blood will be spilled.—Muskegee Times.

Watch St. Louis.

The greatest World's Fair the world has ever seen will be held at St. Louis in 1904. To keep in touch with the work of preparation for this great World's Fair and to get all the news of all the earth, every reading person should at once subscribe for the great newspaper of St. Louis, the Globe-Democrat. It stands pre-eminent and alone among American newspapers, and acknowledges no equal or rival. Its circulation extends to every state and territory of the Union, to Canada and Mexico, and to every part of the world where there are readers of the English language. It ought to be in your home during the coming year. See advertisement elsewhere in this issue.

"Rip Van Winkle" is a play full of interest, comedy and pathos. The mounting is the most beautiful ever given this play, the dressing being extravagant, new and novel. All of the superb scenery forms part of the massive equipment carried for the production. The costumes, properties, etc., are correct and the acting company has been selected with great care. J. A. Simon conceded to be the greatest "Rip" of late years is entrusted with this important character and his interpretation has been unanimously indorsed as very artistic. "Rip Van Winkle" will be put on at the opera house Wednesday Jan. 7th.

STATEHOOD CONVENTION

Called to Meet at Oklahoma on Tuesday, January 6th, 1903.

Headquarters of the Single Statehood Executive Committee, December, 22, 1902.

A convention is hereby ordered to be held in the city of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, on the 6th day of January, 1903, at 10 o'clock a. m., to be composed of 500 delegates from the territory of Oklahoma and 500 delegates from the Indian territory, to be selected in the manner herein provided:

All male persons in the two territories, without regard to race, political affiliation or religious belief, who favor the immediate union of the two territories are invited to meet in mass convention in accordance with the suggestions herein made, to elect delegates and alternates to attend the convention as above stated, for the discussion of single statehood and to take such steps as the wisdom of the convention may deem necessary to bring about the desired end.

The apportionment for the Indian territory shall be as follows: One delegate for each postoffice and one delegate for each 1,000 population or major fraction thereof, in the towns and cities of the Indian territory.

The delegates from each of the said counties in Oklahoma shall be selected at mass meetings held on or about Saturday, the 3rd day of January, 1903, at 2 o'clock p. m. in the county seats of the counties, in the commercial club rooms, or if no commercial club rooms, then in the court house of said counties.

The delegates from the Indian territory shall be selected by mass convention held on or about Saturday, the 3rd day of January, 1903, the said conventions to be held in the commercial club rooms, city hall or court house in the cities and towns at some appropriate place near the postoffices in towns having no city hall, commercial club rooms or court house.

The chairman and secretary of said mass meetings shall preserve a list of the delegates and alternates so selected and sign same as chairman and secretary.

J. A. TAYLOR

Chairman Single Statehood Executive Committee, Wynnewood, I.T.

R. E. STAFFORD, Secretary.

Admir Notes.

The Christmas chimney at the M. E. church was one of the prettiest entertainments we have had for several years.

While riding in a wolf hunt on Christmas day, Dr. Herron was thrown from his horse and quite badly injured.

R. L. Davis has been entertaining his sister and her husband, whom he had not seen in 20 years.

Mrs. Joshua Bowers, of Chandler, Okla., is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Good, and friends.

Miss Minnie Suttles, a former resident of Adair, is the guest of Mrs. Wm. Lennox.

Thad. Parks spent Christmas in Chelsea.

John Archer is spending this week in Keeto. He will stop in Vinita on his return and file on his claim.

Mrs. Daisy Knight came down from Vinita yesterday to visit relatives.

Mrs. Goad and Mrs. Hatfield have been enjoying a short visit with Texas cousins.

Mr. and Mrs. Dallas Canfield are going to near Red Oak, Iowa, to reside.

To Cure a Cold in One Day
Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. This signature on every box. 67c

What the Papers Say.

The call of President Morrow of the Checotah Commercial Club should be heeded by every citizen of Checotah. The Beveridge statehood bill that is now up for consideration in congress is by far the most preferable piece of legislation that has ever been introduced for the benefit of the people of the Indian territory, and this convention which is to meet at Oklahoma City should be largely attended. Whether any legislation is enacted at this session or not, it will at least demonstrate to congress that we are in earnest about wanting relief. Let's send a strong delegation to Oklahoma City favorable to the measure now pending. If Checotah wants to be kept in the foreground we must act at once.—Checotah Enquirer.

The \$35,000 school bond issue of Wagoner has been sold to the R. F. Fulton Co., of Chicago, at a premium of \$500.

H. A. Campbell, mayor of Pauls Valley, died Monday night of appendicitis, and was buried at Whitehead. He was grand treasurer of the I. O. O. F. of the Indian Territory.

Mayor Jones of Oklahoma City has issued an invitation to the mayor of every town in the two territories, urging them to attend the non-partisan statehood convention to be held in that city on January 6.

The "Katy" railroad has bought 100 acres of land at Oklahoma City and will build a round house, repair shops, two depots and a dining hall.

A Cold Wave.

The forecast of sudden changes in the weather serves notice that a hoarse voice and a heavy cough may invade the sanctity of health in your own home. Cautious people have a bottle of One Minute Cough Cure always at hand. E. H. Wise, Madison, Ga., writes: "I am indebted to One Minute Cough Cure for my present good health, and probably my life." It cures coughs, colds, croup, bronchitis, pneumonia and all throat and lung troubles. One Minute Cough Cure cuts the phlegm, draws out the inflammation, heals and soothes the mucous membranes and strengthens the lungs. A. W. Foreman. dw

Thousand Dollars' Worth of Good.
A. H. Thurnes, a well known coal operator of Buffalo, O., writes: "I have been afflicted with kidney and bladder trouble for years, passing gravel or stones with excruciating pain. I got no relief from medicine. I began taking Foley's Kidney Cure, then the result was surprising. A few doses started the brick dust like fine stones and now I have no pain across my kidneys and I feel like a new man. It has done me a \$1000 worth of good." Sold by People's drug store. dw

Kodol Dyspepsia Cure.

Digests all classes of food, tones and strengthens the stomach and digestive organs. Cures dyspepsia, indigestion, stomach troubles and makes rich red blood, health and strength. Kodol rebuilds worn-out tissues, purifies, strengthens and sweetens the stomach. Gov. G. W. Atkinson, of W. Va., says: "I have used a number of bottles of Kodol and have found it to be a very effective and indeed, a powerful remedy for stomach ailments. I recommend it to my friends." A. W. Foreman. dw

Report from the Reform School.

J. G. Gluck, Superintendent, Frankstown, W. Va., writes: "After trying all other advertised cough medicines we have decided to use Foley's Honeys and Tar exclusively in the West Virginia Reform School. I find it the most effective and absolutely harmless." Sold by People's drug store. dw

Foils a Deadly Attack.

"My wife was so ill that good physicians were unable to help her," writes M. M. Austin, of Winchester, Ind., "but was completely cured by Dr. King's New Life Pills." They work wonders in stomach and liver troubles. Cure constipation, sick headache. 25c at Peoples and A. W. Foreman's drug stores. dw